

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 202

S E C R E T ROME 15803

NODIS

SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT OF THE TREASURY FOR SECRETARY SIMON
AND UNDERSECRETARY YEO ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, IT

SUBJ: DELIVERY OF MESSAGE FROM SEC TREASURY TO PRIME MINISTER

REF: STATE 239558

1. REFTEL DID NOT ARRIVE IN TIME FOR ME TO SEE ANDREOTTI LAST NIGHT PRIOR TO HIS MEETING WITH THE UNIONS, SO I DELIVERED MESSAGE THIS MORNING AT 8:15 PRIOR TO HIS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' MEETING. ANDREOTTI WAS VERY APPRECIATIVE OF SECRETARY SIMON'S MESSAGE AND INDICATED HE WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK HARD TO JUSTIFY OUR CONFIDENCE.

2. I TOOK THE OCCASION TO COMPLIMENT HIM FOR HIS SPEECH ON SATURDAY AT THE CLOSING OF THE 3-DAY SEMINOR FOR DC PARLIAMENTARIANS (SUMMARY OF ANDREOTTI'S COMMENTS CONTAINED IN ROME 15727). ANDREOTTI REPEATED HIS BELIEF THAT POLITICAL SUPPORT CAN BE OBTAINED FOR A TOUGH FINANCIAL PROGRAM AT THIS TIME. IN THIS CONNECTION HE MENTIONED THAT HIS MEETING LAST NIGHT WITH THE UNIONS WENT REASONABLY WELL. HE INDICATED THAT THE UNIONS, OF COURSE, WERE NOT OVERJOYED WITH HIS PLAN THAT WOULD MEAN REDUCED WAGE INCREASES AND FRINGE BENEFITS FOR THEIR MEMBERSHIP. HOWEVER, HE FELT PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE. ANDREOTTI INDICATED THAT THERE WERE DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE LABOR RANKS TO HIS PROGRAM AND HE WOULD BE TRYING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE

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DIVISIONS IN PUTTING TOGETHER THE FINAL PACKAGE.

3. I TOOK THE OCCASION TO ASK ANDREOTTI WHETHER THE FRENCH
HAD MADE ANY REPRESENTATIONS ON ITALY'S ECONOMIC PROGRAM.
ANDREOTTI SAID THAT THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR DID MAKE A PRESENTATION
TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY URGING THAT THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TAKE
APPROPRIATE FIRM ACTION IN DEALING WITH THEIR ECONOMIC
DIFFICULTIES SO THAT THE FRENCH WOULD NOT BE STANDING ALONE IN
PROPOSING TOUGH POLICIES. VOLPE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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